GM files for permission to submit recommendations for the California Public Utilities Commission’s Phase 3 regulations for ridesourcing companies. GM’s statement of interest in the filings indicates intent to launch its carsharing service, Maven, in California. In Ann Arbor, Boston, and Chicago, Maven has partnered with Lyft to provide discounted rentals to their drivers.

Local Motors, an Arizona-based automaker that crowdsources vehicle design, unveils an automated 3D-printed electric shuttle bus, named Olli. Local Motors is working with Miami and Las Vegas to develop public transit services using Olli. Olli is the first vehicle to use IBM Watson’s car-focused cognitive learning platform to process voice commands from onboard passengers.

RideAustin, a nonprofit ridesourcing service, launches with limited availability restricted to iPhone users in downtown Austin and the Austin-Bergstrom Airport. With 1,000 drivers and about 10,000 app downloads, RideAustin is one of many ridesourcing companies vying to fill the gap left by Lyft and Uber’s decisions to shut down operations in Austin.

Uber tests a new dispatching system in partnership with the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority in Florida. The pilot provides subsidized Uber rides to low-income residents who are facing an urgent situation requiring transportation. Residents may call the dispatch center and, if their situation is deemed urgent by the dispatcher, will receive a subsidized ride once per month.

Didi Chuxing, Uber’s top Chinese competitor, announces that it raised $7.3 billion in its latest round of funding, which included investments from Apple, Alibaba, and Softbank. The new funds afford the company $10.5 billion in disposable funds and raise its valuation to $28 billion. Didi says it is profitable in half of the 400 Chinese cities it operates in.

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